

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 845**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Bass**

February 26, 2009

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An act to amend Section 5056.5 of the Penal Code, relating to corrections.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 845, as introduced, Bass. Corrections: Reentry Advisory Committee.

Existing law requires the Secretary of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to establish a Reentry Advisory Committee, comprised as specified, to advise the secretary on matters related to the successful planning, implementation, and outcomes of all reentry programs and services in the department, with the goal of reducing recidivism. Existing law repeals these provisions on January 1, 2011.

This bill would impose additional requirements on the committee, including that the committee seek and apply for federal funds, develop a comprehensive strategic reentry plan seeking to reduce the recidivism rate, and submit a report to the Legislature, as specified. The bill would extend the repeal date on these provisions until January 1, 2014.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1     SECTION 1. Section 5056.5 of the Penal Code is amended to  
2     read:

1 5056.5. (a) On or before July 1, 2007, the Secretary of the  
2 Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation shall establish a  
3 Reentry Advisory Committee. The committee shall report to the  
4 secretary, who shall serve as chair of the committee. The committee  
5 shall include representation from stakeholders in the successful  
6 administration of reentry programming and shall be comprised of  
7 the following members, appointed by the secretary:

8 (1) A representative of the California League of Cities.

9 (2) A representative of the California State Association of  
10 Counties.

11 (3) A representative of the California State Sheriffs' Association.

12 (4) A representative of the California Police Chiefs' Association.

13 (5) A representative of the Department of Corrections and  
14 Rehabilitation Adult Parole Operations.

15 (6) A representative of the Department of Mental Health.

16 (7) A representative of the Department of Social Services.

17 (8) A representative of the Department of Health Services.

18 (9) A representative of the Labor and Workforce Development  
19 Agency.

20 (10) A representative of the County Alcohol and Drug Program  
21 Administrators Association.

22 (11) A representative of the California Association of Alcohol  
23 and Drug Program Executives.

24 (12) An individual with experience in providing housing for  
25 low-income individuals.

26 (13) A recognized expert in restorative justice programs.

27 (14) An individual with experience in providing education and  
28 vocational training services.

29 (15) An independent consultant with expertise in community  
30 corrections and reentry services.

31 (b) The Reentry Advisory Committee shall meet at least  
32 quarterly at a time and place determined by the secretary.  
33 Committee members shall receive compensation for travel expenses  
34 pursuant to existing regulations, but no other compensation.

35 (c) The Reentry Advisory Committee shall advise the secretary  
36 on all matters related to the successful statewide planning,  
37 implementation, and outcomes of all reentry programs and services  
38 provided by the department, with the goal of reducing recidivism  
39 of all persons under the jurisdiction of the department *and shall*  
40 *submit a report detailing its findings and efforts to the Legislature*

1 by July 1, 2010. The committee shall consider and advise the  
2 secretary on the following issues:

3 (1) Encouraging collaboration among key stakeholders at the  
4 state and local levels.

5 (2) Developing a knowledge base of what people need to  
6 successfully return to their communities from prison and what  
7 resources communities need to successfully provide for these  
8 needs.

9 (3) Incorporating reentry outcomes into department  
10 organizational missions and work plans as priorities.

11 (4) Funding of reentry programs.

12 (5) Promoting systems of integration and coordination.

13 (6) Measuring outcomes and evaluating the impact of reentry  
14 programs.

15 (7) Educating the public about reentry programs and their role  
16 in public safety.

17 (d) *The Reentry Advisory Committee shall immediately seek*  
18 *and apply for all federal funding available through the federal*  
19 *Second Chance Act of 2007: Community Safety Through Recidivism*  
20 *Prevention (Public Law 110-199).*

21 (e) *As required by the Second Chance Act of 2007: Community*  
22 *Safety Through Recidivism Prevention, the Reentry Advisory*  
23 *Committee shall develop a comprehensive strategic reentry plan*  
24 *containing annual and five-year performance goals. The*  
25 *comprehensive reentry plan shall seek to reduce the rate of*  
26 *recidivism by 50 percent over a five-year period for offenders*  
27 *released from prison, jail, or a juvenile facility who are served*  
28 *with funds provided under the Second Chance Act of 2007:*  
29 *Community Safety Through Recidivism Prevention. The outcome*  
30 *measures for the plan developed pursuant to this subdivision may*  
31 *include, but shall not be limited to, the following:*

32 (1) *Reduction in crime.*

33 (2) *Increase in employment and educational opportunities.*

34 (3) *Reduction in supervised release violations.*

35 (4) *Increase in child support obligation compliance.*

36 (5) *Reduction in drug and alcohol abuse.*

37 (6) *Increase in participation in substance abuse and mental*  
38 *health services.*

1     (7) *Other outcome measures that correlate positively with the*  
2 *reentry success rate of offenders who transition out of prisons,*  
3 *jails, or juvenile facilities.*

4     (f) *The Reentry Advisory Committee shall develop the*  
5 *comprehensive strategic reentry plan in consultation with*  
6 *community members and stakeholders, including persons in the*  
7 *fields of public safety, juvenile and adult corrections, housing,*  
8 *health, education, substance abuse, child and family services,*  
9 *victim services, employment, and business, and members of*  
10 *nonprofit organizations working on reentry policy or providing*  
11 *reentry services.*

12     (g) *The Reentry Advisory Committee shall examine ways to pool*  
13 *resources and funding streams to promote lower recidivism rates*  
14 *among returning offenders and to minimize the harmful effects of*  
15 *offender incarceration on the families and communities of offenders*  
16 *by collecting data and developing best practices on offender*  
17 *reentry from demonstration grantees and other organizations.*

18     (h) *The Reentry Advisory Committee shall submit an annual*  
19 *report to the Legislature and the United States Attorney General*  
20 *detailing the progress of grantees towards achieving strategic*  
21 *performance outcomes and describing other activities conducted*  
22 *by grantees to increase the success rates of the reentry population,*  
23 *such as programs that foster effective risk management and*  
24 *treatment programming, offender accountability, and community*  
25 *and victim participation.*

26     ~~(d)~~

27     (i) *This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2014,*  
28 *and as of that date is repealed, unless a later statute, that is*  
29 *enacted before January 1, 2014, deletes or extends that date.*